United Nations E/2015/100

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
8 May 2015

Original: English

2015 session
21 July 2014-22 July 2015
Agenda item 2
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated agenda for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2015/202, adopted the provisional agenda for its 2015 session.[1]

Section I of the present document reflects the list of items on the agenda for the 2015 session of the Council.[1] Section II of the document contains the annotations for the items. The annotations are intended to provide a brief history of each item and to indicate, where applicable, the documentation that is to be made available during the course of the session. The present document does not include items that are considered by the Council on a biennial basis.[2]

The Council, in its decision 2015/205, adopted the working arrangements for its 2015 session, which includes the operational activities segment, the integration segment, the humanitarian affairs segment, the high-level segment, the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, and the coordination and management meetings (see annex).

[1] E/2015/1.
[2] Development Cooperation Forum and proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2016-2017.

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I. Agenda for the 2015 session[3]

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.
5. High-level segment:
   (a) Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
   (b) High-level policy dialogue with international financial and trade institutions;
   (c) Annual ministerial review;

   Theme: "Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take";
   (d) Thematic discussion;

   Theme: "Strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era".
6. High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.
7. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
   (a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council;
   (b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme;
   (c) South-South cooperation for development.
8. Integration segment.
9. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.
10. The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.
11. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits:

[3] As set out in E/2015/1.

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020.

12. Coordination, programme and other questions:

(a) Reports of coordination bodies;

(b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017;

(c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system;

(d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti;

(e) African countries emerging from conflict;

(f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

(g) Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(h) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields.

13. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B, 57/270 B, 60/265, 61/16, 67/290 and 68/1.

14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

15. Regional cooperation.

16. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.

17. Non-governmental organizations.

18. Economic and environmental questions:

(a) Sustainable development;

(b) Science and technology for development;

(c) Statistics;

(d) Human settlements;

(e) Environment;

(f) Population and development;

(g) Public administration and development;

(h) International cooperation in tax matters;

(i) Cartography;

(j) Women and development;

(k) United Nations Forum on Forests;

(l) Transport of dangerous goods;

(m) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.

19. Social and human rights questions:

(a) Advancement of women;

(b) Social development;

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(d) Narcotic drugs;

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

(f) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

(g) Human rights;

(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

20. United Nations research and training institutes.

II. Annotations

1. Election of the Bureau

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/1, the Economic and Social Council has adjusted its programme of work to a July-to-July cycle and considered transitional arrangements for the election of its Bureau. The Council, in its decision 2013/265, decided that the term of office of the members of the Bureau for 2014 should be from the date of election until the date of election of their successors, which is expected to be at the beginning of the new cycle starting in July 2015, on the understanding that they remain representatives of a member of the Council.

The Council, in its decision 2014/200 A, elected, by acclamation, Martin Sajdik of Austria as President of the Council, and in its decision 2014/200 B, elected, by acclamation, Ibrahim Dabbashi of Libya, Oh Joon of the Republic of Korea and Carlos Enrique García González of El Salvador as Vice-Presidents of the Council. In its decision 2014/200 C, the Council elected, by acclamation, Vladimir Drobnjak of Croatia as Vice-President of the Council.

The Council, in its decision 2014/200 D, elected, by acclamation, Maria Emma Mejía Vélez of Colombia as Vice-President of the Council, to complete the term of office of Carlos Enrique García González (El Salvador). In its decision 2015/200 A, the Council elected, by acclamation, Mohamed Khaled Khiari of Tunisia as Vice-President of the Council to complete the term of office of Ibrahim Dabbashi (Libya).

Documentation

No documentation required.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

On 21 July 2014, at the 1st meeting of its 2015 session, the Council adopted the provisional agenda for the session (Council decision 2015/202).

Documentation

Provisional agenda (E/2015/1)

Request for revisions to the provisional agenda of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council: Letter dated 17 July 2014 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General (E/2015/2)

Annotated agenda for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/100)

3. Basic programme of work of the Council

Pursuant to Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the President, with the cooperation of the other members of the Bureau, arranges consultations with members of the Council on the draft programme of work and makes proposals thereon for consideration by the Council.

Pursuant to Council decision 2006/206 on adapting the work of the Council, the President of the Council convenes consultations of the Council, on an "as available" basis, to adapt its organization of work and current methods of work in pursuance of the provisions set out in General Assembly resolutions 60/1, 61/16 and 68/1.

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

The Council will schedule the elections to fill vacancies in its subsidiary bodies during the coordination and management meetings of the session.

Documentation

Annotations for the elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/1/Add.1)

Election of the members of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/9 and addenda)

5. High-level segment

(a) Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

Pursuant to paragraph 11 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1, the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable

development, convened under the auspices of the Council, shall be held during the high-level segment of the Council.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (E/2015/56)

(b) High-level policy dialogue with international financial and trade institutions

In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/162 and 61/16, the Council will hold a high-level policy dialogue with the executive heads of international financial and trade institutions on current developments in the world economy during its high-level segment.

Documentation

World Economic and Social Survey, 2014/2015 (E/2015/50) (General Assembly resolutions 118 (II) and 52/180 and Council resolution 1983/50)

World Economic Situation and Prospects, 2015 and mid-2015 update (General Assembly resolution 118 (II) and Council resolution 1990/52)

(c) Annual ministerial review

Theme: "Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take".

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 60/1 and 61/16, the Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the theme of the annual ministerial review. The report will incorporate inputs from a number of relevant United Nations entities and will also provide policy recommendations for consideration by the Council.

The Council, in its decision 2015/203, decided that the theme for its 2015 session would be "Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take (E/2015/68)

National voluntary presentation — Kyrgyzstan (E/2015/62)

National voluntary presentation — Mongolia (E/2015/61)

National voluntary presentation — Philippines (E/2015/60)

National voluntary presentation – Zambia

(d) Thematic discussion

Theme: "Strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era".

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 60/1 and 61/16, the Council continues to promote global dialogue, inter alia, through strengthening existing arrangements, including a thematic discussion on a theme from the economic, social and related fields to be decided by the Council and informed by a report of the Secretary-General.

The Council, in its decision 2015/206, decided that the theme for the thematic discussion during the high-level segment of its 2015 session would be "Strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era".

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era (E/2015/69)

6. High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/290, decided that the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council shall be convened annually by the President of the Council and shall have a thematic focus reflecting the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, in line with the thematic focus of the activities of the Council and consistent with the post-2015 development agenda.

The high-level political forum convened by the President of the Council in 2014 adopted the following theme for the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be convened in 2015: "Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the high-level political forum after 2015".

The General Assembly, in its resolutions 67/203, 68/210 and 69/214, requested the Secretary-General to report, through the Council, on the progress on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, including latest developments, key outputs, challenges and opportunities.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns (E/2015/56)

Reports of the regional meetings for the 2015 high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council

Note by the Secretariat on discussion papers of major groups

7. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

(a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council

The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/226, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its session of 2015, analytical reports on results achieved

and measures and processes implemented in follow-up to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

The Council, in its resolution 2013/5, requested the Secretary-General to consolidate the annual reports of the United Nations funds and programmes on the implementation of the comprehensive policy review and on the funding of United Nations operational activities for development in a single report, with inputs from and in full consultation with all funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities, with a view to facilitating effective, efficient and high-quality analytical reporting on United Nations operational activities for development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/70/62-E/2015/4)[4] (General Assembly resolutions 62/208, 63/232, 65/177 and 67/226)

(b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme

The Council will have before it the annual reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, 62/208, 64/289, 65/176, 67/226 and 68/229, and Council resolutions 1995/51, 2011/5 and 2013/5).

Documentation

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2014 (E/2014/34/Rev.1) (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, 59/250 and 62/208, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services on its work during 2014 (E/2014/35) (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, 59/250, 62/208 and 65/176, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2014 (E/2015/14) (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, 59/250 and 62/208, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2014 (E/2015/36) (General Assembly resolutions 48/162, 59/250 and 62/208, and Council resolution 1995/51)

Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on its first and second regular sessions and its

[4] Submitted to the General Assembly through the Council.

annual session of 2014 (E/2015/47) (General Assembly resolution 64/289 and Council resolution 2011/5)

(c) South-South cooperation for development

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 33/134 and 58/220, the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation meets once every two years in odd numbered years and reports to the Assembly through the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services and the Council.

At its eighteenth session, the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, in its decision 18/2, approved the provisional agenda for its nineteenth session, to be held in 2016. The Council will therefore consider the report of the nineteenth session of the Committee at its 2016 session.

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

8. Integration segment

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/1, an integration segment shall be held annually, the timing and modalities of which shall be decided by the Council. The main functions of the segment will be to consolidate all the inputs of Member States, the subsidiary bodies of the Council, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders and to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. The integration segment will bring together the key messages from the Council system on the main theme and develop action-oriented recommendations for follow-up.

The Council, in its decision 2015/204, decided that the theme for the integration segment of its 2015 session would be "Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all".

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

9. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/135, and the Council, in its resolution 2014/13, requested the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue her efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system and called upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance.

The General Assembly and the Council also requested the Secretary-General: to continue strengthening the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian

coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, and enhancing their performance accountability; to report on actions taken to enable the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy staff quickly and flexibly, to procure emergency relief materials and services rapidly, cost-effectively and locally, where applicable; and to quickly disburse funds in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination of international humanitarian assistance.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 52/12 B and Council decision 1999/208) (A/70/77-E/2015/64)

10. The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

In its resolution 45/264, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations addressed to him in the annex to the resolution, which included the recommendation that the substantive session of the Council be organized under segments, including a coordination segment, and that the coordination segment would focus on the coordination of the activities of the specialized agencies, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Articles 63 and 64 of the Charter of the United Nations. In its resolution 2008/29, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on measures taken to implement the annual ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the Council for consideration by the Council at the coordination segment of its substantive session of the following year. In its resolution 68/1, the Assembly decided that dedicated coordination and management meetings would be held regularly to perform the functions of the coordination and general segments.

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

11. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the United Nations system was requested to mainstream the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development throughout its work. The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/214, requested the Secretary-General to continue to report, through the Council, on progress made in further mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system.

In its decision 2011/217, the Council invited the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security to transmit to the Council annually, starting in 2012, a report on the main decisions and policy recommendations made as well as the results achieved by the Committee in the area of food security and nutrition, in accordance with its new roles and vision.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/70/75-E/2015/55)

Report of the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security on the main decisions and policy recommendations made as well as results achieved by the Committee in the area of food security and nutrition

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

In its resolution 2014/11, the Council requested the President of the Council, in close consultation with Member States, to continue close cooperation and dialogue with the relevant organizations and stakeholders on all the elements of the preparations for the special high-level meeting of the Council, in particular the date and agenda of the meeting of the following year, in order to seek a more interactive, dynamic and substantive discussion on key issues related to the financing for development framework.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the overall theme of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Summary by the President of the Council of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (General Assembly resolutions 58/230, 62/187 and 65/145, and Council resolution 2010/26)

(b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020

The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/221, requested the Committee for Development Policy to monitor the development progress of graduated countries, in consultation with the Governments of those countries, on a yearly basis for a period of three years after graduation becomes effective, and triennially thereafter, as a complement to two triennial reviews of the list of least developed countries, and to include its findings in its annual report to the Council.

At its session of 2014, the Council, in its resolution 2014/29, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its session of 2015 a progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1998/46).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session (23-27 March 2015) (E/2015/33)

12. Coordination, programme and other questions

(a) Reports of coordination bodies

The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination will submit its annual overview report to the Council (Council resolution 13 (III)) to provide the Council with a summary of the work carried out by the Board machinery in 2014 (Council decision 2001/321).

The report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its fifty-fifth session (1-26 June 2015) will include the Committee's views on its consideration of the report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (General Assembly resolution 31/93 and Council resolution 2008 (LX)).

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2014

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its fifty-fifth session (A/70/16)

(b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

In accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Secretary General will circulate the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 covering activities in the economic, social and human rights fields. The Council will consider the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (General Assembly resolution 58/269 and Council resolution 1988/77).

Documentation

Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (see relevant fascicles of A/70/6)

(c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The General Assembly, in its resolutions 62/137 and 65/191, requested the Secretary-General to continue to report annually on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices, and recommendations on further measures to enhance implementation.

In its resolution 2014/2, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit at its session of 2015 a report on the implementation of the resolution, including on the promotion of accountability at both the national and the global levels and on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2015/58)

(d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti

In its resolution 2014/37, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti until the conclusion of the 2015 session, with the aim of following closely, and providing advice on, the long-term development strategy of Haiti to promote socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, building on the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti and stressing the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms.

The Council, in the same resolution, requested the Advisory Group to submit a report on its work, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Council for consideration at its 2015 session.

Documentation

Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

(e) African countries emerging from conflict

In its decision 2014/256, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system (E/2014/94) and requested that another report on the subject be submitted for the Council's consideration at its 2015 session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan

(f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

In its resolution 2013/12, the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases by expanding the mandate of the existing Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, with this Task Force to be convened and led by the World Health Organization (WHO), to report to the Council through the Secretary-General and to incorporate the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control, including the work to support the accelerated implementation by parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of WHO, and in full consultation with Member States through WHO, to develop the terms of reference for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, incorporating, but not limited to, the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control and the current work of the secretariat of WHO to develop a division of tasks and responsibilities, as exemplified in appendix 4 to the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020, and also requested the Secretary-General to include the terms of reference in his report on the implementation of the resolution for the consideration of the Council at its session of 2014.

At its 2014 session, the Council, in its resolution 2014/10, requested the Secretary-General to report at the 2015 session on the implementation of resolution 2013/12.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2015/53)

(g) Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

In its resolution 2013/11, the Council requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the Council at its 2015 session a report prepared by the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, in collaboration with its co-sponsors and other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, on progress made in implementing a coordinated response by the United Nations system to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) (E/2015/8)

(h) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields

The Council will be required to approve its calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2016 and 2017 (Council decisions 52 (LVII) and 1988/103).

In its resolution 66/233 on pattern of conferences, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to propose, at its sixty-seventh session, a comprehensive review of conference servicing highlighting any duplications and redundancies. The Secretary-General, in paragraph 13 of his report on the pattern of conferences (A/67/127 and Corr.1), indicated that the Secretariat had reviewed the process of preparing the biennial calendar of conferences and meetings, which incorporates the provisional biennial calendar of meetings in the economic, social and related fields. He further indicated that the biennial calendar contained almost two thirds of the meetings listed in the provisional biennial calendar and that the time and effort to prepare, translate and issue two almost identical calendars so close to each other might be considered a duplication and redundant.

In paragraph 15 of his report, the Secretary-General therefore recommended that the General Assembly might wish to invite the Council to reconsider the necessity of reviewing its provisional biennial calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields.

Subsequently, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences, the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/237, concurred with the observations in paragraph 13 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences regarding the biennial calendar of meetings of the Council.

In addition, as indicated in paragraph 23 of the report of the Committee on Conferences (A/67/32), most delegations expressed the view that the issue should initially be brought to the attention of the Bureau of the Council, through its secretariat, and then to the Council as a whole. Therefore, it was suggested that the Council might then wish to review paragraph (b) of its decision 281 (LXIII), on the need for a biennial calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields, in the context of the mandate set out by the Assembly in section II, paragraph 16, of its resolution 66/233.

The Council, in its resolution 2013/13 decided to consider at a later date the necessity of reviewing its provisional biennial calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields in the light of ongoing intergovernmental consultations on the further strengthening of the Economic and Social Council.

Documentation

Provisional calendar of conferences and meetings for 2016 and 2017 in the economic, social and related fields

13. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B, 57/270 B, 60/265, 61/16, 67/290 and 68/1

In the annex to its resolution 68/1, the General Assembly stated that the Secretary-General should make proposals to promote collaboration across the United Nations system, taking account of the functions of a strengthened Council, with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat serving as a central hub of support for the Council, in order to better utilize existing resources of the United Nations system to broaden support to the Council and its Bureau. The proposals were to include measures to enable the Secretariat to better support the implementation of a unified development agenda. Similarly, the Secretary-General was to explore proposals to strengthen support to the Council, including to the office of the President of the Council.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General containing proposals on United Nations system support to the Economic and Social Council

14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Assistance to the Palestinian people: At its sixty-third session, in 1977, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to it annual reports on the question of assistance to the Palestinian people (General Assembly resolution 57/147 and Council resolution 2100 (LXIII)).

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/99, and the Council, in its resolution 2014/25, requested the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories, and also requested the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories.

In the same resolutions, the General Assembly and the Council requested the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact on those matters and to report thereon to the Council. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of the resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system and to report thereon to the Council at its 2015 session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/70/76-E/2015/57)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the President of the Council on consultations with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (E/2015/65)

15. Regional cooperation

The Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation and take the necessary action on the decisions and recommendations contained therein that statutorily require its approval.

The Council will also have before it the summaries of the surveys of regional economic and social conditions prepared by the regional commissions, highlighting the main problems and prospects of those regions (General Assembly resolution 1823 (XVII) and Council resolution 1817 (LV) and decision 1979/1).

The Council, in its resolution 2013/7, requested the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe to continue to take an active part in the follow-up to the project for a Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar and to report to the Council at its session of 2015 on the progress made on the project studies.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/2015/15 and addenda)

Economic situation in the Economic Commission for Europe region (Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States), 2014-2015 (E/2015/16)

Overview of the economic and social conditions in Africa, 2014-2015 (E/2015/17)

Summary of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2015* (E/2015/18)

Latin America and the Caribbean: economic situation and outlook 2014-2015 (E/2015/19)

Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region, 2014-2015 (E/2015/20)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities related to the Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar carried out during 2013-2015 and the proposed programme for 2015-2017 (E/2015/21)

16. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Council, in its resolution 2014/26, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, through the Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution and to continue to include in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

17. Non-governmental organizations

Pursuant to its resolutions 3 (II) and 1996/31 and its decision 1995/304, the Council considers the reports of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on the work of its regular (26 January to 4 February 2015) and resumed (26 May to 3 June 2015) sessions. The dates of and provisional agenda for the 2015 sessions of the Committee were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/226.

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 regular session (E/2015/32 (Part I))

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 2015 session (E/2015/32 (Part II))

18. Economic and environmental questions

(a) Sustainable development

The Council will have before it the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session (23-27 March 2015) (Council resolutions 1079 (XXXIX) and 1998/46).

Documentation

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session (E/2015/33)

(b) Science and technology for development

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighteenth session (4-8 May 2015) (General Assembly resolutions 46/235 and 56/182). The provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/237.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 68/198, requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-ninth session on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the resolution, as part of his annual reporting to the Assembly, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Council, on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighteenth session (E/2015/31)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels

(c) Statistics

The Council will have before it the report of the Statistical Commission on its forty sixth session (3-6 March 2015) (Council resolutions 8 (I), 8 (II) and 1566 (L)). The provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/219.

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (E/2015/24)

(d) Human settlements

The Council will have before it the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on its twenty-fifth session (17-23 April 2015) (General Assembly resolutions 32/162 and 56/206 and Council resolution 1978/1).

The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Council resolution 2014/30).

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on its twenty-fifth session (A/69/8)

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda

(e) Environment

The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme reports to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council (Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), sect. I, para. 3). The Governing Council meets in regular sessions every two years and in special sessions in alternate years (General Assembly resolution 53/242).

The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/251, decided to change the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme.

At its first session, held from 23 to 27 June 2014, the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, in its decision 1/2, decided to hold its second session in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016. The Council will therefore consider the report of the second session at its 2016 session.

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

(f) Population and development

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-eighth session (13-17 April 2015) (General Assembly

resolution 49/128). The provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/239.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-eighth session (E/2015/25)

(g) Public administration and development

The Council will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourteenth session (20-24 April 2015) (Council resolutions 2001/45 and 2003/60). The venue, dates and provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Committee were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/257.

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourteenth session (E/2015/44)

(h) International cooperation in tax matters

Pursuant to its resolution 2013/24, the Council will hold, on an annual basis, a special meeting to consider international cooperation in tax matters, including institutional arrangements to promote such cooperation. Pursuant to Council decision 2015/205, the meeting will be held on 22 April 2015. The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on further progress achieved in strengthening the work of the Committee and its cooperation with concerned multilateral bodies and relevant regional and subregional organizations.

The Council will also have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its tenth session (27-31 October 2014) (Council resolution 2004/69). The venue, dates and provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Committee were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/220.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the further strengthening of the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/2015/51)

Report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its tenth session (E/2014/45)

(i) Cartography

At its session of 2011, the Council decided to establish the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the annex to its resolution 2011/24. The Council, in its decision 2014/251, approved the provisional agenda and dates for the fifth session of the Committee (New York, 3-7 August 2015). The Council will consider the report of the fifth session of the Committee at its 2016 session.

The Council, in its decision 2014/252, approved the dates and venue for the Twentieth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, 5-9 October 2015) (Council resolutions

131 (VI) and 1839 (LVI)). The Council will consider the report of the Conference at its 2016 session.

Documentation

No advance documentation requested.

(j) Women and development

The Council will have before it the relevant sections of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session (21 March 2014 and 9-20 March 2015) (General Assembly resolution 42/178 and Council resolution 1987/24).

Documentation

Relevant sections of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session (E/2015/27)

(k) United Nations Forum on Forests

The Council will have before it the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eleventh session (4-15 May 2015) (Council resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49). The provisional agenda, dates and venue for the eleventh session of the Forum were approved by the Council in its decisions 2013/240 and 2013/241.

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eleventh session (E/2015/42)

(l) Transport of dangerous goods

The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, including recommendations of the Committee on the transport of dangerous goods and on the Globally Harmonized System (Council resolutions 645 G (XXIII) and 2013/25).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (E/2015/66)

(m) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

At its substantive session of 2000, the Council, in its resolution 2000/32, reaffirmed the important role of the General Assembly, the Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts of the international community and the United Nations system to States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council and, as appropriate, in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States. The Council decided to continue consideration of the

question, under the item entitled "Economic and environmental questions", taking into account the relevant decisions of the Assembly and the Security Council (see also General Assembly resolution 59/45).

Documentation

No request for advance documentation.

19. Social and human rights questions

(a) Advancement of women

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session (21 March 2014 and 9-20 March 2015) (Council resolutions 11 (II), 1987/22 and 1996/6). The provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 2014/216.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex). Under article 21 of the Convention, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women shall report annually on its activities to the General Assembly through the Council and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States parties to the Convention.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session (E/2015/27)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the outcomes of the fifty-seventh, fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (E/2015/67)

(b) Social development

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-third session (21 February 2014 and 4-13 February 2015) (Council resolutions 10 (II), 1139 (XLI) and 1996/7). The provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Commission were approved by the Council in its decision 2014/217.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 68/136, requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Council, on the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels.

Documentation

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-third session (E/2015/26)

Report of the Secretary-General on the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 (A/70/61-E/2015/3)

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-third session (Vienna, 4 and 5 December 2014) (Council decisions 2009/251 and 2011/259).

The Council will also have before it the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its twenty-fourth session (Vienna, 18-22 May 2015) (Council resolution 1992/1 and decision 1993/242). The provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 2014/230.

The Council, in its resolution 1745 (LIV) of 16 May 1973, invited the Secretary-General to submit to it, at five-year intervals starting from 1975, periodic updated and analytical reports on capital punishment. The report will also be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fourth session and the Human Rights Council at its twenty-eighth session (Council resolution 1990/51).

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-third session (E/2014/30/Add.1)

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its twenty-fourth session (E/2015/30)

Report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty

(d) Narcotic drugs

The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/200, requested the Commission to report to the Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Council, on the progress made in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly in 2016 on the world drug problem.

The Council will have before it the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session (3-5 December 2014) (Council decisions 2009/251 and 2011/259).

The Council will also have before it the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session (9-17 March 2015) (Council resolutions 9 (I) and 1991/39). The provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission was approved by the Council in its decision 2014/234.

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014. In accordance with article 15, paragraph 1, of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 18, paragraph 1, of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances and article 23, paragraph 1, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the Board will report to the Council, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, on its work for 2014.

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress in the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly in 2016 on the world drug problem

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session (E/2014/28/Add.1)

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session (E/2015/28)

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014 (E/INCB/2014/1)

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

In its resolution 58/153, the General Assembly decided that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should make an annual oral report to the Council to keep it informed of the coordination aspects of the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and, as established in paragraph 11 of its statute (Assembly resolution 428 (V), annex), should continue the existing practice of presenting an annual written report to the Assembly.

Documentation

Oral report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(f) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

In its resolution 62/220, the General Assembly decided that the Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with their respective roles under the Charter and Assembly resolution 50/227, and the Human Rights Council should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. In the same resolution, the Assembly reaffirmed that the Human Rights Council should continue to have a central role in the monitoring of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action within the United Nations system and in advising the Assembly thereon.

Documentation

No request for advance documentation.

(g) Human rights

The Council will have before it the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifty-second and fifty-third sessions (28 April-23 May and 10-28 November 2014) (Council resolutions 1988 (LX), 1985/17 and 1995/39).

The Council will also have before it the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (General Assembly resolution 48/141).

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex). Under article 39 of the Convention, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities reports every two years to the General Assembly and to the

Council on its activities, and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States parties to the Convention.

Documentation

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its 2014 sessions (E/2015/22)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Report of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on its 2013 and 2014 sessions

(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/2, requested the Secretary-General to report, through the Council, on progress made in the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

The Council will have before it the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourteenth session (20 April-1 May 2015) (Council resolution 2000/22). The venue, dates and provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Forum were approved by the Council in its decisions 2014/244 and 2014/245.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourteenth session (E/2015/43)

20. United Nations research and training institutes

The General Assembly, in its resolution 60/214, decided that the biennial reports on the activities of the United Nations System Staff College would be submitted to the Council rather than to the Assembly.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/216, decided that the report of the Council of the United Nations University and other reports on the work of the University should be submitted biennially to the Council, rather than to the Assembly for its consideration, beginning in 2009.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 62/210, decided to streamline the reporting arrangements of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research through consolidation of the reports of the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the Institute and submission of the new consolidated report of the Secretary-General to the Council, rather than to the Assembly, on a biennial basis, starting from 2009 (see also Council resolutions 2011/11 and 2013/45).

The Council, in its resolution 2013/45, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, a report on the ongoing consultations on the implications of the proposed consolidation of some United Nations entities dedicated to research, training and knowledge services.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations System Staff College (E/2015/54)

Report of the Council of the United Nations University on the work of the University (E/2015/7)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (E/2015/12)

Report of the Secretary-General on the consultations on research, training and library services (A/70/79-E/2015/70)

Annex

Working arrangements for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2015/205, adopted the following working arrangements for its 2015 session:

(a) The coordination and management meetings to be held on 17 and 18 November 2014; from 8 to 10 April 2015; from 8 to 10 June 2015; and from 20 to 22 July 2015;

(b) The meeting of the Council on access to credit-rating information to be held on 8 December 2014;[a]

(c) The youth forum to be held on 2 and 3 February 2015;

(d) The operational activities segment to be held from 23 to 25 February 2015;

(e) The integration segment to be held from 30 March to 1 April 2015;

(f) The special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to be held on 20 and 21 April 2015;

(g) The one-day special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters to be held on 22 April 2015;

(h) The partnership forum to be held on 28 May 2015;

(i) The humanitarian affairs segment to be held in Geneva from 17 June to 19 June 2015;

(j) The high-level segment, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, and the annual ministerial review, to be held from 6 to 10 July 2015;

(k) The high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, to be held from 26 June to 8 July 2015. The three-day ministerial meeting of the forum to be held from 6 to 8 July 2015;

(l) The organizational session on the programme of work of the Council from July 2015 to July 2016 to be held on 23 and 24 July 2015.

[a] Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/202 of 20 December 2013.